



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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Michael O. Leavitt
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Division Director

July 3, 1998

TO: Minerals File

FROM: Tom Munson, Reclamation Hydrologist *Tm*

RE: Site Inspection, Reilly Wendover's Bonneville Plant, M/045/002, Tooele County, Utah

Date of Inspection: February 6, 1998
Time of Inspection: 10 AM - 2 PM
Conditions: Cloudy and cool
Participants: Glenn Wadsworth, Reilly Wendover; Wayne Hedberg, Tony Gallegos, Tom Munson, and Lynn Kunzler, DOGM

Purpose of Inspection: To inspect site and discuss reclamation issues

On January 8, 1998 the Division received a permit amendment from Reilly Wendover precipitating a site meeting and field tour. The operator wants to implement a new solar evaporation pond at the mine, named Pond VI. The location of Pond V, the pond being decommissioned, and the new Pond VI is found on Drawing #970416-001 rev 0, dated 12/11/97.

On 2/6/98 the Division meet Glenn Wadsworth onsite for a brief meeting and site tour. During the meeting the Salt Laydown Project was discussed. One thing that came to light during that meeting was the use of fresh water wells from the base of the Silver Island Mountains. This was something that the Division was not aware of and felt the disturbance associated with those wells and the plugging of those wells would be something to consider.

The issues that the Division reviewed, both during the 2/6/98 site inspection of Pond V and VI, and in its review of the plan, are outlined in this memo. The major review issue was: should the reclamation plan for Pond V be any different than what was originally approved by the Division in the original mining and reclamation permit and how would this impact the current bond?

During the site visit we looked at various dikes associated with old projects, Pond V and the new area of Pond VI. The Division decided that the dikes associated with Pond V would not benefit from regrading and that it may become necessary at some point in the future to use the salt accumulated behind those dikes to supplement the Bonneville Salt Flat Laydown

Project. It was also discussed that allowing the dikes to erode slowly could possibly prevent all the salt (Sodium Chloride) that has built up behind the dikes from being subject to immediate erosion into the surrounding areas. It was also looked at from a safety standpoint and there appeared to be no immediate concerns.

It was felt that all pumps and powerlines should be removed immediately following decommissioning of those ponds when they are no longer in use. Several pumps and pipelines were viewed at the inlet to Pond V. This aspect of reclamation was contemplated in the original plan and, therefore, would not require change with the new Pond VI.

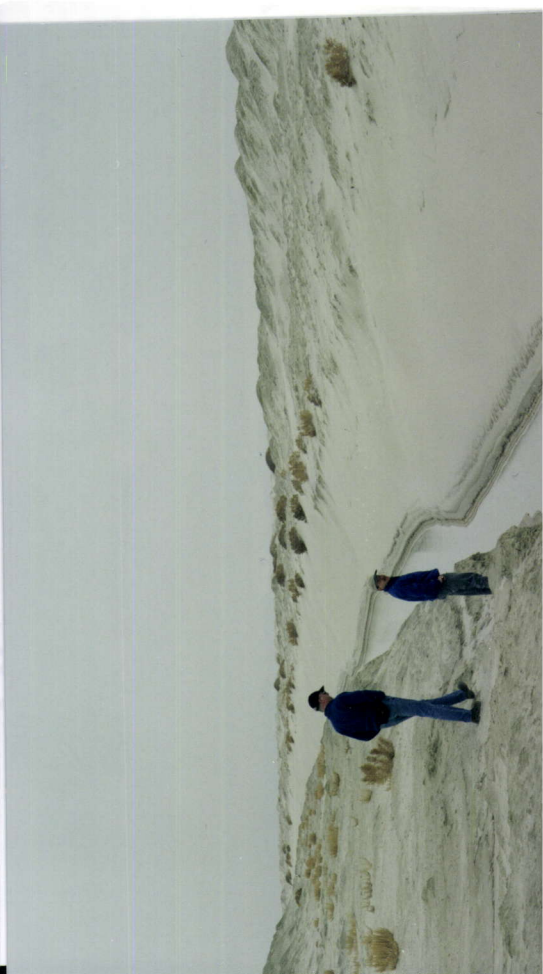
It was also discussed that any major canals associated with this operation will need to be reclaimed as appropriate following mine closure, to protect future hydrologic changes. This was not as approved in the original reclamation plan. The original reclamation plan contemplated that the canals would fill in naturally. The original plan did not differentiate between canals in size or purpose. After viewing the major North- South canal (**named**) onsite, it was agreed that as it was significantly deep and wide (20 feet x 20 feet) that this canal would be around for many years and possibly would never reclaim itself. Therefore it was felt that a reclamation plan will be needed for the major canals.

While onsite we looked at areas of past disturbance (i.e. minor canals and dikes) and saw that they were filling in to some degree and would most likely reclaim themselves if isolated from other major features. But the reality of this issue was observed when we looked at Pond V and saw that it was full of sodium chloride. If the dikes were removed, it would allow this salt a chance to run everywhere. It was also felt that the salt may be a resource at some point in the future for the Salt Flat Laydown Project.

The inspection and site tour ended around 2 PM.



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REILLY

S-EAST PUMP STATION

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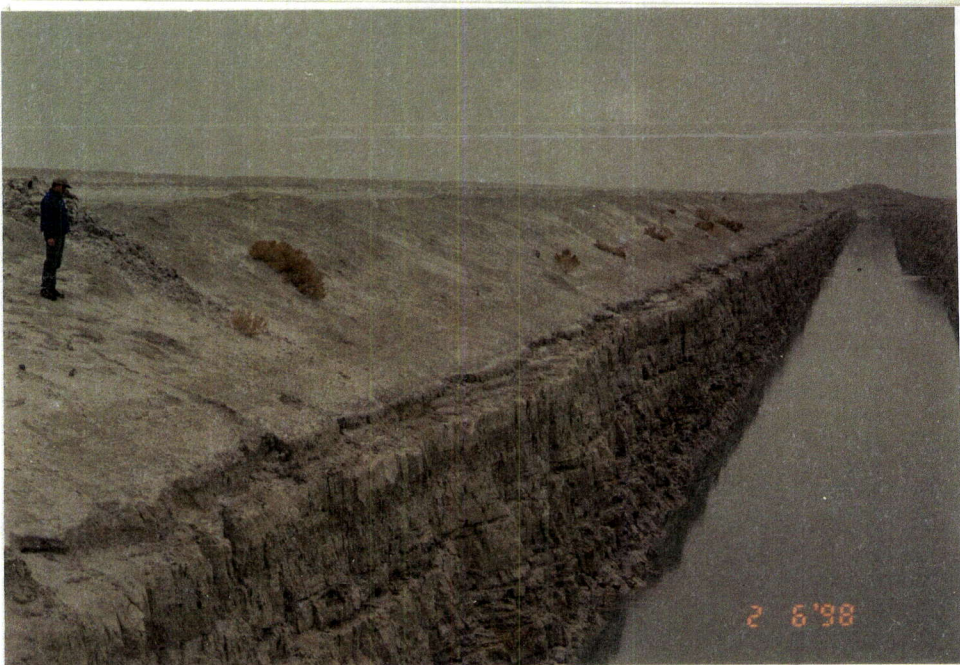
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REILLY

S-EAST PUMP STATION

M/045/002

REILLY WEADOVER



side view

front view

